

## Bucks Rewarded to Drivers Who Buckle Up

Safe Kids Kansas, State Farm Insurance and the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) sponsored a Labor Day safety message on Sept. 2. A safety belt awareness campaign called “Bucks for Buckles” was held in 39 cities across Kansas.

Volunteers distributed \$1 bills to drivers who had all occupants buckled up securely in their vehicle. Those riding unrestrained received educational materials about the effectiveness of seat belts in saving lives and reducing injuries.



“No one can predict when they will be involved in a motor vehicle crash, yet almost all of us will be involved in a serious automobile crash in our lifetime. Last year, 245 people lost their lives on Kansas roadways,” said Jan Stegelman, coordinator of Safe Kids Kansas. “The single most effective means of protecting the lives of you and your passengers is wearing seat belts every time you ride in the vehicle – even short distances.”

According to the 2004 KDOT Safety Belt survey, only 68 percent of those surveyed ages 14 and older were wearing their seat belt. This compares to the national average of 80 percent. Last year, Kansas ranked 46th in the nation in seat belt usage.